25 years of *European Radiology*

Maximilian F. Reiser¹

Published online: 4 January 2016
© European Society of Radiology 2015

This year marks the 25th anniversary of *European Radiology*, certainly a reason to celebrate. Prof. Josef Lissner demonstrated great vision by founding *European Radiology* in conjunction with the creation of the European Congress of Radiology (ECR) in its new form. As editor in chief, he was followed by Prof. Albert Baert and Prof. Adrian Dixon who both further developed *European Radiology* to become the leading European journal in its field. This journey was tightly linked to the founding of ESR (European Society of Radiology), the world's biggest radiological society with over 60 member states and more than 60,000 members.

Credibility and transparency are vital quality aspects of a scientific journal. We adhere to an independent and anonymous peer review system we are continuously striving to optimise. The expertise and engagement of reviewers are essential for the quality of our journal. The difficult and time-consuming work involved in creating a review is an additional challenge for already busy researchers and radiologists. We would like to take this opportunity to express our immense gratitude to our reviewers who support us with their advice and criticism. Their recommendations contribute essentially to maintaining and further improving the quality of the manuscripts in *European Radiology*.

For years, submissions have been steadily increasing, 30 % alone since I have started my term as editor in chief. Sadly, the growing number of submissions puts us into the uncomfortable position of having to reject a very high number of articles. Despite many of these articles being of high quality, we have to consider their priority rating compared to other submissions as well as maintain a balance among the different subspecialties represented in our journal. We are extremely grateful for the outstanding work by our editorial team and we are lucky to be supported by our dedicated deputy editors, who handle their respective topics expertly. Prof. Rahel Kubik oversees 'breast' and 'urogenital', Prof. José María García Santos handles 'neuro', Prof. Sujal Desai manages 'thoracic imaging' and Prof. Peter Vock supports us with his expertise in 'radiation protection' and his knowledge in a wide range of other issues.

Over the years, the journal's format has been adapted to reflect current developments and the interests of our readers. Guidelines and pictorial reviews, as well as recommendations and statements from the ESR and other leading radiological societies in Europe are published by our sister journal *Insights into Imaging*. ¹ is an educational open access journal with a wide dissemination, under the expert guidance of Prof. Robert Hermans. The journal was submitted to the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI) to receive an Impact Factor last year and is currently under evaluation. With EURORAD, recently under the guidance of Prof. Ekberg, the ESR offers an attractive platform for case reports, which can also be accessed as blinded teaching cases. Under the umbrella of the ESR, we are therefore able to offer a wide variety of publication possibilities.

✉ Maximilian F. Reiser
Maximilian.Reiser@med.uni-muenchen.de

¹ Institut für Klinische Radiologie, Klinikum der Universität München, Marchioninistr. 15, 81377 Munich, Germany

The focus of *European Radiology* lies with original articles, reviews, special reports and technical developments. The aim is to present current developments of the highest scientific level while considering the potential impact on clinical applications at the same time.

Publications in highly ranked journals are of ever increasing importance for every discipline and every academic researcher. They significantly impact a scientist's career and influence the success of grant applications. They are also important for a department's reputation within a university and an institution's standing on a national and international level. Worryingly, a number of cases of fraud and plagiarism have been uncovered in scientific publishing in the recent past. Articles submitted to *European Radiology* therefore regularly undergo inspection using specific plagiarism software, to protect the readers and the scientific community from such incidences and to maintain fairness and integrity in science, which is one of our top priorities. This requires intense efforts and further emphasises the importance of a diligent, transparent and objective review process.

Scientific publications also directly affect the daily routine and work environment of radiologists, radiographers and related disciplines. Increasingly, the choice of imaging techniques and interventional procedures has to follow the criteria of 'evidence-based radiology'. Only top-quality publications in highly ranked journals are being considered when clinical guidelines are created or revised. In particular, prospective outcome studies with large patient collectives are of great importance. Thus, radiological publications may eventually even influence the reimbursement of radiological services.

There is a rapid rate of technical and methodological innovation in radiology and associated sciences. This evolution continues to present a challenge for the scientific community and needs to be continuously evaluated in order to adapt it properly for the best possible service to patients. We have to consider the value for individual patients and their clinical outcome as well as the impact on health care systems in a responsible manner. By doing so, we are confident that we can serve the field of radiology as well as assist radiologists in their daily duties.